

# City Gets Right to Sue Gardena Over Annexation

Your Complete Community Newspaper

## Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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# THREE COUNCIL POSTS AT STAKE

### A Penny for your Thoughts

"What do you think could be done to get more people out to the polls at election time?"

Answering were:

Mrs. William Steele Jr., 1834 1/2 West 209th Street, housewife:

"I think the reason that most people don't vote is because they have neglected to register so maybe if they would have more places to register out on the streets like they do in Los Angeles it might remind more to do it. Also it would help a lot if they would arrange for child care like the parents vote."

Anonymous, 2376 W. 246th Pl., Lomita, plant security officer: "Many who haven't voted have neglected to register so I think if they would have the registration places on the street corner of a busy thoroughfare such as El Prado here, it would make it much easier for those wanting to register."

Mrs. Lawrence Meredith, 616 E. Carson, housewife: "I think that the chance to register should be made more available . . . or they could have a definite place and the same place all the time so that when a person wanted to register they'd know where to go. I think some sort of facility for the care of children would be a good idea."

Miss Bernadette Lanier, 616 East Carson, unemployed key punch operator:

"We have been waiting around for almost an hour to register because the sign in the bank said the woman would be here at a certain time . . . and she still isn't here, so I think we need more places to register and have them outside where people can see them. I think that is the main reason a lot of people don't go to the polls. Of course such things as child care, and offering transportation might help too."

Mrs. Edna Meredith, 616 E. Carson, housewife:

"I think we definitely need more people registering the public and out where we can find them, not hidden away inside some remote building. Their locations might be advertised too. Then on election day, provisions for child care for mothers with small children sounds like a real good idea and may it would help."



PLUNGE OPENED . . . Leland Brunson, 16, basks in the sun as the city plunge at Madrona Ave. and Torrance Blvd. was opened for the 1960 season yesterday afternoon. The plunge will remain open from noon until 4 p.m. through the Easter vacation and on Saturdays and Sundays until the regular opening on June 10.

## Lomita Annexation Case Sent to Inglewood Court

Action to halt annexation of a corner of Lomita to Torrance will be heard in Inglewood Superior Court, it was decided this week.

## Attendant Slugged by Bandit Duo

A young Torrance service station attendant was slugged and kicked when he attempted to grapple with two bandits at the Gardena station where he works Thursday night.

Jack Franklin, 19, of 3330 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., said he was knocked out by a hold-up duo who crept up on him as he was closing the station near Rosecrans and Crenshaw. After the pair had demanded that he open the safe, Franklin lunged at the suspects, he told police. He was knocked down by a blow from the butt of the gun, and then was kicked by the pair. He was unconscious for several minutes before he was able to call police, he said. The bandits escaped with about \$35.

perior Court, it was decided this week.

Superior Judge Ellsworth Meyer of Los Angeles granted a Torrance motion to change the case from Los Angeles to Inglewood for the convenience of those involved in the matter.

The suit, brought by Eugene Capel, seeks to invalidate the city's action in annexing the 12-acre corner at Crenshaw Blvd. and Lomita Blvd. on the grounds that the city illegally refused to consider his protest. At the public hearing on the annexation, Asst. City Attorney Robert Dower told the city council that it could disregard the Capel protest because he was not owner of record at the time the last assessment rolls were compiled.

Capel, through the suit, seeks to halt the annexation on the grounds that he was the legal owner of the property and entitled to a protest. His protest, if allowed, would make the protests sufficient to halt the city's annexation drive. Hearing on the matter has been scheduled for April 20 in Inglewood Superior Court.

## State Finds Substantial Issue of Law

Torrance may sue the city of Gardena to determine priority in the disputed annexation of a strip of county territory east of El Camino College along Crenshaw Blvd. The city was given the right to enter the suit in a ruling Friday by the attorney general's office in Sacramento, it was learned here yesterday.

AN OPINION written by Dep. Atty. Gen. Bonnie Lee Martin said the annexation dispute presented "a substantial issue of law," and that public interest would be served by a court decision on the validity of Gardena's claim to the area. "If leave to sue were denied," Martin's opinion said, "cities would be encouraged to ignore the statutory provisions which have been enacted as a guide to orderly proceedings."

THE OPINION said it was in the interest of good government to grant leave to sue "in this instance."

Torrance officials contended that the city began annexation proceedings prior to those instituted by Gardena for the disputed area.

When the present city of Lawndale was planning its incorporation, their original boundary lines overlapped the area in question, and the Torrance action was held up to await the incorporation move which has priority over annexations.

WHEN THE incorporation of that area was unsuccessful, the

city reinstated its annexation claims, but Gardena had entered an annexation claim in the interim.

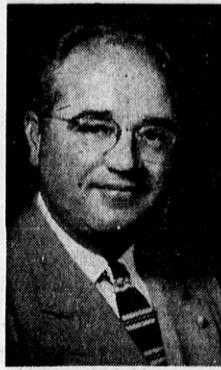
The city sought leave to sue the city of Gardena to settle the question of priority, and Friday's opinion by the attorney general's office clears the way for this action.

## Scrap Scrap Jails Diner

A Hermosa Beach man who apparently wanted to take food scraps from his plate home to his dog was jailed by Torrance police Thursday night after he allegedly struck the restaurant manager who informed him it was against the house rules.

Theodore N. Kichencoe, 37, was charged with battery on the complaint of Charles Popejoy, 46, of Lawndale, co-manager of the Jump n' Jack Restaurant at 2900 Pacific Coast Hwy.

Popejoy told police he was beaten about the face and body by the Hermosa Beach man after he informed him that taking scraps from the restaurant was not permitted.



NICKOLAS O. DRALE



GEORGE KURTZ



GEORGE VICO

## 36,705 Can Vote Tuesday Deputy Says

An estimated 15 to 30 per cent of the city's 36,705 registered voters are expected to visit the polls here Tuesday to select three members of the Torrance city council for four year terms.

One hundred and sixty-six precincts will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Tuesday as three incumbents and 13 challengers seek election to the council.

AT STAKE in the election are the seats of Victor E. Benstead, Nickolas O. Drale, and Robert B. Jahn, all candidates for re-election.

Challenging the incumbents will be Paul Albright-Jr., John J. Barton, Garth Belknap, Jeff W. Bell, Henry Carreiro, James Cicchini, Rose Craig, David Figueredo, Thirvin D. Fleetwood, Roger Hogue, Walter Keberlein, George Kurtz, and George Vico.

THE HERALD has recommended the re-election of Drale to his fourth term and the election of George Kurtz and George Vico.

While the polls close at 7 p.m., anyone in line at that hour will be permitted to vote, Robert Carlson, deputy city clerk, said yesterday.

No one will be permitted to enter the line after the 7 p.m. closing hour, but those in line will be permitted to vote, he explained.

ABSENTEE ballots will be counted by a special board of judges on Tuesday night after the polls close, he said. The procedure differs from preceding years when these ballots were not opened until the official canvass of ballots by the city council a week after the election. New state laws speed up the counting, it was explained.

While the absentee ballots must be voted and mailed on or before election day, a period of six days is allowed to permit their delivery to the city.

ABSENTEE ballots for those who have been hospitalized or stricken after 5 p.m. last Thursday may be obtained on verification of the incapacitation certified by the attending physician, Carlson said. Application must be made at the city hall.

Liquor stores and bars will be closed during the 12-hour election period.

RETURNS SHOULD come in early, city hall veterans said. The ballot is simple and will be easy to tabulate.

Telephone information on the progress of the election will be available at the HERALD beginning at 8 p.m., one hour after the polls close. Interested persons may call the HERALD at FAirfax 8-4000 for the results.

## Local Pair Promoted by AiResearch

The appointments of Howard E. Rollins, 5343 Reese Road, as general supervisor of quality control, and Paul G. Stein, 21305 Ocean Ave. as supervisor of mechanical engineering in ground support services, has been announced by The Garrett Corp.'s AiResearch Manufacturing Division of Los Angeles.

Rollins is now responsible for all activities in quality control planning. An AiResearch employee for 17 years, Rollins was formerly general foreman of inspection in quality control.

Stein, an AiResearch employee for 12 years, will be in charge of the mechanical section of AiResearch's ground support services. Prior to his present appointment, he was with the Garrett Corp.'s AiResearch Industrial Division as a project engineer on gas turbine development.

## City Schools Close For Easter Vacation

Torrance schools will have a one-week vacation from April 11 to 15, immediately preceding Easter.

Classes will resume on Monday, April 18. The only other vacation remaining this school year will be on Monday, May 30. The school year will end on Friday, June 10. Summer school will be from June 20 to July 29.

## Goals for Cancer Crusade Outlined

Mrs. Robert Stapleton, District Volunteer Chairman, of the American Cancer Society has announced the April fundraising and educational Crusade in District 8.

District 8 is composed of the following communities: Westchester, Playa del Rey, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, Hollywood Riviera, Palos Verdes Estates, Palos Verdes Hills, Portuguese Bend, Rolling Hills, Harbor City, Lomita, Walteria, Torrance, Gardena, Lawndale, Hawthorne, Lennox, and Inglewood.

THE ANNUAL April Cru-

sade has two objectives: to distribute as much life-saving educational literature as possible and to raise funds for carrying on the Society's three fold program — research, education and service to cancer patients.

High point of the month-long campaign will be the Residential Memorial Crusade from six until nine o'clock Monday evening, April 25, when distribution of educational literature, including Cancer's Seven Danger Signals, will take place simultaneously with acceptance of donations.

"IF CANCER had been conquered a dozen years ago," says Mrs. Stapleton, more than 2,750,000 Americans would not have died. In 1957, California death rates from cancer totaled 20,319 while in 1960 an estimated 21,700 Californians will succumb.

"But on the optimistic side, one cancer patient in three is now being saved, while only a few years ago the ratio was one in four."

"That means," she continued, "that today half of those who get cancer could and should be saved. It also means that the immediate goal of cancer control is saving 250,000 lives."

IT IS THE knowledge that such a goal can be reached—if education is broad enough and facilities for research and care are sufficient—that spurs the American Cancer Society volunteers to even greater efforts this year in preparation (Continued on Page 3)



HOSPITAL GIFT . . . The Torrance Civitan Club presented a Croupette Canopy to the Harbor General Hospital Children's Ward last Wednesday at the Palms Restaurant. Pictured with the respiratory aid for babies at the hospital are from left: Dr. Kenneth Zike, Fred Hansen, Dr. A. F. Kline, Mrs. Henry Rivera, mother of patient David demonstrating the unit, K. L. Christofferson and A. L. Thomas. (Herald Photo)



AUTO DESTROYED . . . Fireman Frank Tuttle puts finishing touches to flames which destroyed an auto driven by Ronald J. Corcoran, 28, of 26139 Delos Drive, at Crenshaw Blvd. and 247th St. late Wednesday. Corcoran told police his auto had stalled and that he was pushing it off the highway when it was struck by an auto driven by William W. King, 35, of 25903 Matfield Drive. Both suffered slight injuries. (Herald Photo)